

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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Up-and-Coming

Thursday, March 19, 12 noon cocktails—12:30 luncheon—R. E. "Ted" Turner, sportsman, TV and cable TV entrepreneur, who will explore the future of cable TV.

Wednesday, April 25—OPC's 45th Annual Awards Dinner at the Starlight Ballroom in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, dedicated to "Freedom of the Press."

Reservations for both events a must.

Luncheons: Members \$16, Guests \$20. 5:30 programs, members, no charge, guests \$4. Cash bar at all functions. Reservations required for all functions. Cancellations must be received 48 hours in advance of function where food is served, otherwise member will be charged the announced fee. FOR RESERVATIONS CALL MARY NOVICK, 212-679-9650.

Mike Wallace to Present OPC Awards

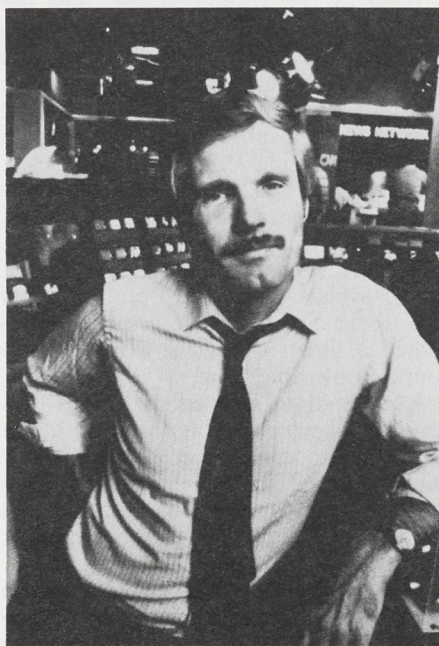
Entry forms are in the mail, key roles have been filled, the date of Wednesday, April 25 and the Starlight Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria are reserved, and the 45th edition of the Annual OPC Awards program is on its way. The theme is "Freedom of the Press."

According to OPC President **Anita Diamant, Angier Biddle Duke** has accepted her invitation to serve as Banquet Chairman. Former Ambassador to Spain ('65-'68), Denmark ('68-'69) and El Salvador ('68-'69), OPC member Duke was Chief of Protocol for the White House and to the Secretary of State from 1960 to 1965. He was honorary president and presently is *Chairman* of the U.S. Japan Foundation of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy. As this is written, he and President Diamant are conferring on a suitable dinner speaker.

Mike Wallace, CBS-TV reporter and a co-host of the network's popular "60 Minutes" newscast, has accepted our invitation to present the awards.

The awards program is unique in several

'Cable' Ted Turner Our Speaker Mar. 19



R.E. "Ted" Turner, whose round-the-clock Cable News Network has revolutionized television news presentation in the United States, will speak at the club on March 19.

The 45-year-old broadcasting entrepreneur is the latest in a series of prominent news executives to address the OPC's "Third Monday" luncheons.

A controversial figure in broadcasting, Turner's success to date largely depends upon whom you're talking to. But few can deny that his guts-ball approach to broadcast news has had a significant impact on network news programming, not to mention the way Americans are informed about events and issues.

Originator of the "SuperStation" concept, Turner transformed a comparatively small Atlanta television station—now called WTBS—into a 24-hour cable network beaming news by satellite to stations throughout the country.

Less than two years after launching CNN in 1980, Turner inaugurated another round-the-clock service of headline news called CNN2, which provides a continuously updated 30-minute "wheel" of hard news. In April, 1982, he added to this empire a 24-hour all-news radio network, available to AM and FM stations around the country.

In some circles, Turner is best known for his sports involvement. In addition to owning the Atlanta Hawks basketball team and the Atlanta Braves baseball franchise, he is a world class sailor who won the 1977 America's Cup.

Turner will speak on the future of Cable television, particularly the 24-hour news format.

The luncheon will begin with cocktails at noon in the Bogart Room. Reservations are mandatory and on a first-come-first-served basis for OPC members, who are allowed one guest apiece. The luncheon will be \$16 for members and \$20 for guests.

Contact OPC Office Manager Mary Novick for reservations at 679-9650.

ways: it is the sole exclusive awards program for journalists filing from overseas. And the panel of judges is primarily made up of peers—wire service journalists are judged by wire service journalists; photographers by photographers; book writers by book people and so forth.

Last year, there were 413 entries in 14 categories. This year, a 15th category has been added—in economic news coverage (as opposed to business news coverage). The OPC annual "Dateline," which is issued on the night of the banquet, will concentrate its editorial focus on the award winners. Henry Gellermann and Murray Schumach will again be publisher and editor, respectively, of *Dateline*. Chairman of the Awards Committee is Norman A. Schorr.

"At this time, when the press is increasingly criticised here and abroad," Mr. Schorr said, "the OPC Awards take on added significance. It is particularly important to publicize and applaud the noteworthy work done by journalists around the world."

Letters

NEW YORK—I read with great interest the “Report Shows OPC Keeping Press Free” in the January issue.

In addition to its “concern about free press violations” and its laudable effort to focus “attention on the intimidation, arrest, imprisonment, torture and other physical abuse, and other severe restrictions to which journalists outside the U.S. are subjected,” did the Freedom of the Press Committee call attention to the “severe restrictions” imposed by our own government in the case of Grenada?

Or does the Committee’s concern limit itself to foreign journalists only?

Henry Ries

TEL AVIV—The Government press office, under the direction of New York-born Morton Dolinsky, has instituted a bi-weekly press forum, making government officials accessible to the resident foreign press corps. The first program featured the Minister of Trade, Gideon Patt, who deftly fielded questions from a panel consisting of *Jay Bushinsky*, CNN-TV and *Chicago Sun-Times*, Robert Slater, *Time Magazine*, and Neil Sandler, *Business Week* and McGraw Hill.

The forum was held in Jerusalem’s Beth Agron and about 60 correspondents attended and asked questions. Steve Leibowitz, who up to six years ago was a Gothamite and now is in the Government press office, moderated the session.

Max Gendel

(June Carolyn Erlick writes from Bogota, Colombia, to correct Max’s report in December of a scholarship in memory of Dial Thorgerson, killed in El Salvador. There is no “h” in Dial’s name, she writes, and he was killed in Honduras. ***Max has a postscript to his report in this issue —“Best to you all in New York. I think you know more of what’s going on here than we do.”)

The Staff of the Overseas Press Club, Mary Novick, Manager, and Anthony Muraco, Bookkeeper, wish to express their thanks to the members of the Overseas Press Club for their generosity in contributing to the Employees Christmas Fund. Gloria Swing, former secretary, and the Staff of the Chemists’ Club would also like to thank the membership, and join us in wishing everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Mary Novick, Mgr.

Expert Sure KGB Tried to Kill Pope

Claire Sterling, veteran journalist, OPC’er and expert on international terrorism, discussed her newly published book, “The Time of the Assassins,” at the OPC Book Night January 10. It was Mrs. Sterling who first alleged in *Reader’s Digest* in September, 1982, that there was an organized plot to murder Pope John Paul II, and traced its source to the Bulgarian secret services, acting on behalf of the Soviet KGB.

Now in the United States from her base in Rome to publicize the book which documents her thesis, Mrs. Sterling told OPC members and guests that when the Vatican elected the Polish Pope it “knocked them absolutely for a loop in the Kremlin.” The Pope became “an electrifying presence” for the Catholic populations of Eastern European countries, as well as those inside the Soviet Union. Moreover, she said, his deep commitment to the aspirations of the Polish workers and their Solidarity movement represented a threat which the Soviet Union found intolerable.

Mrs. Sterling recalled that the Soviet press had been attacking the Pope in the weeks and months before he was shot by Mehmet Ali Agca in St. Peter’s Square less than one year after Solidarity exacted concessions from the Polish Communist regime.

However, she said, Moscow’s ultimate decision to mastermind the Pope’s assassination, was in large part the result of the failure of the Western press and the failure of Republican and Democratic administrations to discuss frankly in public the Soviet Union’s responsibility for years of terrorist acts against Western interests.

To deny the public access to the information known to intelligence services in the West could only have been interpreted as a form of “continuing indulgence,” which tempted the Kremlin to plot against the Pope because the West would not tell.

In her research on the book, Mrs. Sterling said, she came across numerous cases of disinformation put out by Western intelligence agencies about the assassination attempt. She offered a partial explanation, saying that people have argued to her that she should not have written the book because “detente is too important, coexistence is too important, that this is the most destabilizing crime that ever occurred in our century,” and that if the truth were revealed “it would make it impossible for East and West to cohabit this planet and would lead to the Third World War.”

Richard Hughes

Richard Hughes, 77, dean of the foreign press corps in Asia, died Jan. 3 of a liver ailment in Queen Elizabeth hospital in Hong Kong, where he lived. Hughes, an Australian, was a foreign correspondent for Australian and British newspapers for more than 40 years. He covered the North African campaigns of World War II, and the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Based in Hong Kong since 1948, Hughes wrote four books including “Hong Kong: Borrowed Place, Borrowed Time.” He was the model for fictional correspondents in John le Carre’s “The Honourable Schoolboy,” and Ian Fleming’s James Bond novel, “You Only Live Twice.”

Final rites were held in St. Joseph’s Church in Hong Kong with a eulogy delivered by Dennis Bray, secretary for home affairs in the Hong Kong government.

Glenne Currie

Glenne Currie, theatre critic for United Press International and a former foreign correspondent, died of a heart attack Jan. 4 a few hours after he was stricken at his UPI desk in New York. Currie was a news editor for UPI in Manila and Hong Kong in the 1960s and 1970s.

Sterling Continued

Mrs. Sterling said that she does not share that feeling. “The worst single practice operating against detente and coexistence is that the public has been denied the possibility to understand, judge, evaluate and formulate a policy of coexistence with the other superpower on the other side of the world.” She asked rhetorically, “Would this world be a safer place if this act were to be covered over forever, if the case should end now, if none of us should know from now on that indeed this is an instrument of Soviet policy and one with which we must deal?”

In addition to her leaving no doubt that she felt the Bulgarian secret service and the Soviet KGB were involved in the plot, Mrs. Sterling implied that John Paul II feels that way too, by recalling his recent visit to Agca in prison. Following his visit the Pope said “We are brothers and I express my full trust and confidence in Agca’s repentance, Mrs. Sterling concluded, “which must be taken to mean the credibility of his confession involving Bulgaria.”

—Gene Sosin

London's Press Club A Pleasant Place

By Henry Cassidy

It's hard to find, but looking for the London Press Club is well worth the effort. When you get there finally, you have found one of the world's great press clubs.

You go along Fleet Street from the Strand, and turn left in an alley, between the Telegraph and Express buildings, that has no street name and is blocked by a traffic sign signifying: Do not enter.

This is Shoe Lane.

Walk about 100 yards up a hill to a nondescript office building bearing the number 76, and a name, International Press Centre. Go up to the second floor, which is the first floor over there, of course.

This is the London Press Club.

There is an entry hall, where you sign the visitor's book; the Churchill Room for press conferences and meetings; and up another flight, a handsome dining room and lively bar.

There is an entry hall, where you sign the visitor's book; the Churchill Room for press conferences and meetings; and up another flight, a handsome dining room and lively bar.

The club celebrated its 100th anniversary in 1982 with a list of guests that reads like a Court Circular—Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip, Prince Charles, Princess Margaret and the Queen Mother.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher turned up for a fund-raising party for the Newspaper Press Fund. The Aga Khan came to the Derby Dinner. They even had an Overseas Press Night, as well as Travel Night, Crime Night and Authors' Night.

The club has been in its present quarters for 10 years. It had another busy year in 1983, with all the traditional evenings, plus an Arizona Night which featured "singers and dancers from Tucson and cowboy food."

Apart from the special events and the friendly bunch around the bar, the principal attraction is the dining room, quite formal and dignified, with first-class food and impeccable service. And the price is right.

The Member's lunch of soup, Dish of the Day with vegetables and potatoes, and coffee sells for six pounds (about \$9). There is a Roast of the Day for 4.95 pounds (about \$7.50) that, on one occasion, consisted of two large slices of pink roast beef, a mound of roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding and a generous serving of horse radish.

The president of the club is Lord Matthews, chairman of Fleet Holdings, which publishes the *Daily Express* and other papers. Among the club's vice-presidents is Sir Max Aitken, son of the late Lord Beaverbrook, legendary former proprietor of the *Express*.

The *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal* are among the other tenants of the building.

If you get lost, they may help you to find it.

At the door, you will be greeted by a tall, slender, gracious lady, Rene Mullis, oldest member of the club staff in years of service. She has been there 25 years.

DATELINE Seeks Ad Producers

OPC's 45th anniversary will be celebrated this year not only at its annual dinner, April 25th, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, but also by the club's annual magazine, DATELINE. Copies will be distributed at the dinner and mailed that day to all members.

Henry Gellermann, former president, will again serve as DATELINE's publisher. Its theme, he announces, will be "the topic closest to the heart of every professional journalist—freedom of the press."

Mr. Gellermann also announces the staff that will this year produce DATELINE, the staff that produced last year's successful issue—Murray Schumach, reporter and foreign correspondent for The New York Times, as editor; Pierre Cooley, a New York Times art director, will design and illustrate the book; George Burns will serve as Awards editor—OPC's annual awards for excellence in journalism will be announced at the dinner, and published in DATELINE; and Len Silverman, once again, will serve as advertising director.

Advertising, of course, is vital to the success of DATELINE—and members who can help in any way obtain advertising for DATELINE—one of the Club's most important revenue producers—are urged to be in touch with Mary Novick at 679-9650.

New Applications

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT

William F. Strube, Partner, Strube Coughlin Associates

Sponsors: Irene C. Kuhn, Joshua Powers

Michael Coughlin, Partner, Strube Coughlin Associates

Sponsors: Irene C. Kuhn, Joshua Powers

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT—Under Age 30

Elizabeth Hausman, Account Executive, Grey & Davis Inc.

Sponsors: Mark Rutman, Louis Weintraub

New Members

ACTIVE RESIDENT

John Tessitore, Editor-in-Chief, Worldview Magazine

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT

Leo J. Murray
William K. Adler

ASSOCIATE NON-RESIDENT

John Amann
Lee Stanley
Philip C. Wallach
Adrienne Marcus

Reinstated

ASSOCIATE OVERSEAS

Sven Erik Bergh

Placement

Bilingual, independent journalist, MSJ Columbia '70, eight years experience in Latin America, seeks staff correspondent job, preferably based San Jose, Costa Rica. Write June Carolyn Erlick, A.A. 32581, Bogota, Columbia, or call 2435251, Bogota.



Overseas Press Club Bulletin

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Who, What, Where

By Rosalind Massow

ON THE TRAIL OF HITLER...In researching a book on Hitler, **Jack Harrison Pollack** reports on the presence of a second book written by the German chancellor (the first was "Mein Kampf.") The saga of that manuscript from lost to found to limbo for 33 years is told by Pollack in a piece printed by Newsday Magazine this past December.

COVERING RACE RIOTS...**Barrett McGurn** and **Carl Rowen** were featured speakers at an all-day conference on covering race riots, at the University of Miami. Members of the Miami community, news reporters from print, radio and TV and even the police were in attendance to learn how to handle race riots fairly. Another bit of news about McGurn is that he was profiled in the Fordham University alumni magazine for his ability to work on "two sides of the news barricade" as newsman and government spokesman in Rome, Saigon and Washington.

HE'S A WHO WHO...**Walter H. Nelson**, chairman of Nelson Associates, Ltd., an Anglo-American PR firm in London, has added "Who's Who in the World" to his other credits. Nelson is author of nine books, is now working on children's books, and his company was recently appointed to promote Time-Life International.

GONZALEZ COVERS THE WORLD SPEEDILY...Arky G..., addressed 250 Asian marketers in New Delhi, attended the Society of American Travel Writers conference in Israel, went to Lausanne to interview Monique Berlioz in Lausanne, followed by a weekend interview of Julia Child in France and now is on a round-the-world trip to shoot a film for the *International Herald Tribune*. How's that for hopping around?

COMICS, FOR A DAILY CHUCKLE...The comics sales director at Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, **Thomas J. Craddock** thinks that readers of comic strips look for funny punch lines and he's out to get that message across as a creative member and coordinator of the 21st Century Comics Project. The project, made up of business people involved in creating, producing, editing and syndicating comic strips, aims to increase readership in comics by improving the product. Since reading comics means buying Sunday papers, the project has the support of major newspapers and syndicates.

DEAR MEG, DEAR HENRY...Past president **Henry Gellermann** needs a

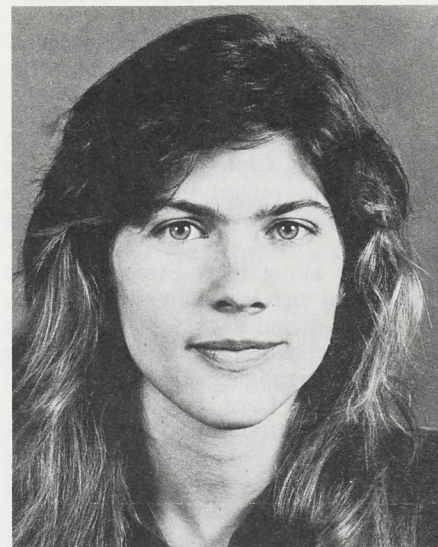
little advice on how to make OPC members pay their dues and assessments faster, so whom does he call on—our own Dear Meg—**Meg Whitcomb**, who's an expert on giving advice. Meg's column is followed by more than 14 million readers in newspapers around the country, and now she tells all in book form—"Dear Meg," just published by Morrow.

FILM MAKER ON THE SPOT...A couple of years ago Dale Remington's Kaleidoscope produced a "happy" film on Grenada. It was the only such film around when all hell broke loose on that island paradise. Everyone clamored for that piece of footage—the result—Dale's work has been seen on "Good Morning America" (ABC), Ted Turner's CNN, WPIX and Wall Street Journal Reports.

From dear **Jessie Stearns**, OPC's eyes and ears in Washington, a few notes: "1984 will be a tense, fast-moving, 'upbeat' year. The Democratic convention will be in San Francisco July 16-19, the Republicans in Dallas August 20-23. **If a woman is selected to be a vice-presidential candidate, it will be Elizabeth Dole, Secretary of the Department of Transportation, who has beauty, brains and charm. Her husband is Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. A Pentagon spokesman told me I had a good question when I asked how many wars are being fought now...36 countries are involved in active military operations."

Two feature stories by OPCer **Joan F. Lane**, business writer for Miami's Department of Economic Development, have received Awards of Merit in competitions sponsored by the South Florida chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators.

Now In Our Lobby



February's lobby exhibit by Heidi Larson is a stunning exhibit of twenty black-and-white photographs which describe the experiences of being a young girl, wife and mother in Nepal. Ms. Larson has explored play, worship, and work responsibilities shared by girls and women in Nepal, and her photographs portray these activities in both urban and rural contexts.

OPCER **Robert U. Brown** is feeling 100 years old these days. Not because he is that old—he's far from it—but because, as president of *Editor & Publisher*, the Bible of U.S. newspaper journalism, he will be bringing out, come March 31, E&P's 100th anniversary edition. It will be a veritable history of U.S. journalism for the past century. Which should make pretty lively reading.

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